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52

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Date of Signature and Deposit: 6/6/01 Jean C. Baker  
Attorney of Record

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kelly J. Henrickson and Jiang Fan  
Serial No.: 09/484,704  
Filed: January 18, 2000  
For: VIRUS ASSAY METHOD  
Group Art Unit: 1656  
Examiner: J. Siew

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JUN 11 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the December 6, 2000 Office Action and in the matter of the above-identified case, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1 - 5, 7 - 11, 13 - 19, 21, 22, and 24 - 33 and enter new claims 34 - 36.

B<sub>1</sub> Sub C<sub>1</sub>  
34. (New Claim) A method of detecting virus infection in a biological sample comprising the steps of  
(a) isolating nucleic acid from a biological sample,